



# City News

City of Waterville

July/August 2009

## Upcoming Holidays

All City departments, except emergency services, will be

**CLOSED** in observance of the following holiday as shown:

Independence Day  
July 3

### FACTS:

Independence Day commemorates the formal adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. However, it was not declared a legal holiday until 1941.

## Summer Fun Ideas...

Check out [www.visitmaine.com](http://www.visitmaine.com) to find all sorts of summer things to do: family attractions, fairs and cultural events, outdoor recreation, nature, sightseeing/tours, state/national parks, agricultural events, whale

Get out and about this summer!

## Summer Fun Ideas



## Parks & Rec Update

We all breathe a big sigh of relief when the Alford Municipal Pool is ready and open for business. Each year brings new challenges when it comes to maintenance of the pool facility. It takes us 5-6 weeks of scraping, patching, painting and cleaning to get ready for opening. Last season we added a shade structure that was very well received. This year we planted 4 beautiful sugar maples along the north fence and an additional 3 maples between the Youth Center and parking lot. In a few years these trees will provide plenty of great (natural) shade. All the hard work pays off when we see the parking lot full and 200-300 kids cooling off on a hot summer day.

We're fully staffed this time of year with Sam and Steve and an additional 8 seasonal workers who are responsible for mowing, trimming and general maintenance of all city/school parks, fields and playgrounds. They're also responsible for setting up and taking down for various special events including North End Night Out, Taste of Waterville, South End Night Out, Franco-Fest and many others. These guys do a great job keeping our City beautiful.

For the first time ever (to my knowledge), the City has a community garden on North Street next to the boat landing (see the related article on the back page of this newsletter).

The City has received nearly \$8,000 in federal funding to plant approx. 30 trees this fall. Each year we lose trees along Main St. and the Concourse for various reasons. We will be replacing trees in these areas as well as along Burleigh St. and Morrill Ave. where we had to remove several hazardous/aging trees in the last few years. Project Canopy (a program through the Department of Conservation) provides over-

sight for this program.

Summer programs are in full swing, and we couldn't be happier! Currently we have track and field, art, t-ball, tiny tykes good time hour, golf, tennis, and our Summer Adventure Series. We are very excited to welcome all our staff for another packed summer!

Parks & Recreation is also gearing up for summer field trips. We'll be traveling to see the Boston Red Sox take on the Kansas City Royals on July 10th. Tickets are limited, so please contact the office at ext. 4744. Another exciting trip that we

have this summer is a shopping excursion to North Conway, New Hampshire, where we'll be attending the 7th Annual Mall Wide Tent Sale. We'll be taking a chartered bus to Settlers Green Outlet Village on Saturday, August 8th, seating is limited. Please contact April



Painting the Pools

or Bobbie-Jo for more information.

We are also very excited to once again provide Summer Concerts in Castonguay Square. This year we teamed up with Waterville Main Street to provide three quality shows. On July 8 at 6:30 pm, the Kayla Wass Band will be performing; this is a dynamic 5-piece country music band performing hits from today and the past. On July 22 at 6:30 pm, the Calypso Soldiers will be performing; this is a 7-piece band that plays a broad range of music from rock, funk, country and blues. The last band to perform this year will be the Toughcats on August 19 at 6:00 pm.; this is a talented indie bluegrass band. Don't miss any of these great bands. In case of rain, all concerts will be moved inside to the REM conference space.

—Matt Skehan, Parks and Recreation Director





## Independence Day Events

- **July 1<sup>st</sup> – Fort Halifax Park:** 4:00-6:00 PM: 4<sup>th</sup> Idol Contest. 4:00-8:00 PM: Beans & Pork Roast Supper Concert in the Park starting at 6:15 PM.
  - **July 2<sup>nd</sup> – Fort Halifax Park:** Chicken BBQ from 11:00 AM -8:00 PM. A Golden Afternoon & Concert in the Park in the afternoon/evening.
  - **July 3<sup>rd</sup> – Fort Halifax Park:** The 319<sup>th</sup> US Army Band from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. St. John's school parking lot: Street Dance from 5:00-11:00 PM
  - **July 4<sup>th</sup> – Winslow/Waterville Bridges:** Maine's LARGEST Independence Day Parade, 10:00 AM. After the Parade, for a day of bands, games, petting zoo, and (20) food booths in addition to the chicken BBQ at Fort Halifax Park. At 9:10 PM: A Patriotic Tribute. 9:30 PM Spectacular Fireworks Display
  - **July 10<sup>th</sup> – Fort Halifax Park:** The Concert in the Park continues from 6:00- 8:00 PM.
- The Winslow Family 4th of July is proud to hold family friendly events. No alcohol is permitted at any event. Bikes and dogs are not allowed in Fort Halifax Park. Please respect the properties of residents and businesses near the park and along the parade route.**

## Community Gardening Project

What will you grow this summer? At the new Waterville Community Garden, gardeners are growing organic vegetables, plants, and flowers, along with a healthy dose of friendship and community.

Located on North Street, the community garden was catalyzed by members of the Mid-Maine Sustainability Coalition, a grassroots movement created to conserve our resources, sustain a healthy environment, and promote economic prosperity for the Mid-Maine region.

With the help of dedicated Waterville community members and the Parks and Recreation Dept., the garden was up and running in May, the start of the growing season. One goal of the garden is to provide space and support for all those who wish to grow their own food. Another goal is to establish the link between eating locally produced food and energy conservation. Finally, the garden aims to encourage residents to establish their own backyard or community gardens in the area.

There are 12 plots at the North Street Garden that



were made available to Waterville residents on a first-come, first-served basis. Each plot holder paid \$10 for the rights to their 4'x8' raised bed. The Community Garden wishes to expand onto other locations within Waterville. They especially hope to establish a garden in the south end of Waterville by next year but nothing is planned just yet.

All are welcome to the Grand Opening on Sunday, July 12 from 2-4 pm, rain or shine. Live music and refreshments will be provided, including wood-fired brick oven pizza baked on site. Many plot owners will be present to answer questions and show visitors around the garden. If you would like to learn more about the Community Garden and about organic and sustainable gardening, or just want to have some fun on a lazy Sunday afternoon, we would like to see you there! **For more information, see [www.sustainmidmaine.org](http://www.sustainmidmaine.org).**



# Have a safe and happy summer!!

## Public Works News



After many weeks of effort, Public Works recently completed street and sidewalk sweeping operations. With the exception of a few minor equipment problems, things went well this year and finished a bit ahead of schedule.

As expected, pothole filling, roadside brush removal, sign repairs and numerous responses to plow damage reports for lawns and curbs have been the dominant theme of work assignment sheets during recent weeks. Another sure harbinger of spring is street striping crew beginning their annual job of repainting center lines, turn lanes, cross walks and parking spaces throughout the City. This operation has been under way for several weeks with good progress made.

With the long anticipated summer season unfolding, the focus has turned to warm weather projects. As we all know, this precious season is too short-lived. This is Public Work's busiest and most varied time of the year. Coordination and scheduling of

a huge array of weather dependent projects are a daily challenge. A brief sampling of activities and projects includes major street repaving; sidewalk and traffic light upgrades; facility improvements and repairs; and trenching, shoulder and drainage projects at locations throughout the City.

Along with the City Engineer, we are currently exploring options for relocating the snow dump from Head of Falls to another suitable site. Later, we will be assisting on project initiatives for the Two Cent Bridge and Head of Falls area and on various trail construction projects with Parks & Recreation.

We look forward, as do many of you, to being outside in the fresh air and sunshine. Whether it be for work or for play, there's really nothing quite like being in Maine during this exceptionally beautiful time of year. To everyone, may you have a safe and enjoyable summer.

— Mark Turner, Director

### NOW THAT'S FAST



*Contributed photo by Mark Huard*

**WATERVILLE POLICE OFFICER** Lincoln Ryder measure the speed of a pitch with a radar gun at The Winslow Little League Fun Day on Saturday. The event raised money for the Komen Foundation for Breast Cancer Awareness, the MS Foundation and the Central Maine Veterans Memorial. Also, equipment was collected for Roberto's Kids.

## Local Events



### Downtown Farmers' Market

Thursdays thru November 20  
2:00 – 6:00 PM

[www.WatervilleFarmersMarket.org](http://www.WatervilleFarmersMarket.org)

### Summer Concert Series

July 8, 22 & Aug. 19

Castonguay Square

FMI: 680-4744

[www.waterville-me.gov](http://www.waterville-me.gov)

### Red Sox vs. Kansas City

Friday, July 10

To Fenway Park by Bus

FMI / Register: 680-4744

[www.waterville-me.gov](http://www.waterville-me.gov)

### Maine International Film Festival (MIFF)

Friday, July 10 – Sunday, July 19

FMI: 861-8138, [www.miff.org](http://www.miff.org)

### 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Arts Fest

Saturday, July 18 • 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

FMI: [www.watervillemainstreet.org](http://www.watervillemainstreet.org)

### National Night Out

August 4 • 5:00 - 10:00 PM

Green Street Park, Waterville

FMI: 859-1666

### Taste of Greater Waterville

August 5, Downtown

FMI: 873-3315,

[www.midmainechamber.com](http://www.midmainechamber.com)

### Summer Sidewalk Sales

August 5-7

FMI: [www.watervillemainstreet.org/](http://www.watervillemainstreet.org/)

### Shopping Excursion

August 8

North Conway, New Hampshire

FMI: 680-4744

[www.waterville-me.gov](http://www.waterville-me.gov)

### Big Truck Day

August 13 • 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Concourse Parking Lot

FMI: 872-5433

[www.waterville.lib.me.us](http://www.waterville.lib.me.us)



### Rock the Home! Concert

August 15 • 2:00 - 6:00 PM

Band Shell, Colby College

FMI: 872-0261

[www.colby.edu](http://www.colby.edu)